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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
**Washington, DC 20515-6115**

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March 6, 2007

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His Excellency Vaclav Klaus  
President of the Czech Republic  
11908 Prague 1, The Czech Republic

Dear President Klaus:

The Committee on Energy and Commerce of the U.S. House of Representatives has begun to examine the issue of mankind's contribution to global warming and climate change. The Committee, given its jurisdiction over energy policy and environmental issues, will be the principal advisor to the U.S. House of Representatives on matters concerning legislation to enhance the United States' current efforts to address energy policy and future climate change. Both Republican and Democratic members of the Committee seek to have as full an understanding of the facts as possible before the Committee acts within this complex policy area.

Over the past several decades, as an economist and political leader, you have developed an important perspective on the forces that effect individual freedom and economic progress and abundance, especially as you have helped to lead the Czech Republic out of the deadly stagnation of the former Soviet regime to become one of the fastest growing, vibrant economies in Europe. You have also taken public positions regarding the climate change debate. We believe your perspective on the political, economic, and moral aspects of the climate change debate can be useful as we seek to assess the potential impacts of proposed U.S. climate-related regulations on the economic well-being of its citizens and their ability to contribute to future economic vitality and innovation here and abroad.

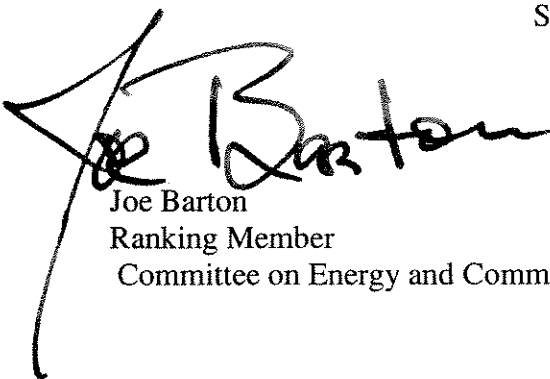
We write today to invite your informed personal response on the climate change concerns currently confronting policymakers in Europe and the United States. You should know our Democratic counterparts have invited former Vice President Al Gore – another leading opinion maker – to testify on such matters before our energy subcommittee on March 21, 2007. We would welcome hearing from you in time for this hearing. Additionally, we would welcome hearing from you directly in either a private meeting or a more formal venue if your level of interest and schedule permit.

Although we appreciate whatever perspective you believe can contribute to our deliberations, we would also welcome your responses to the following questions:

1. Concerning mankind's contribution to climate change and in keeping with obligations towards the welfare of our citizens: what, in your view, should policymakers consider when addressing climate change?
2. How should policies address the rate and consequences of climate change and to what extent should regulation of emissions of greenhouse gases be a focus of any such policies?
3. What will be the effect on national economies, consumer well-being, job creation, and future innovation under various climate change policy scenarios that have come to your attention?
4. What impact and effectiveness will so-called cap-and-trade policies have upon the reduction of climate change threats and our ability to address these threats in the future?
5. What is the moral obligation of developed countries to the developing countries of the world? Should developed countries embark on large emissions reduction schemes while developing countries are allowed to continue to increase emissions unabated?

We write in an effort to contribute to the bi-partisan consideration of these matters and very much respect your perspective on these matters. If you have any questions, please contact us or have your staff contact David McCarthy, Chief Counsel for Energy and Air Quality, at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Joe Barton  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce



J. Dennis Hastert  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Energy  
and Air Quality

cc: His Excellency Petr Kolar, Ambassador to the United States  
The Honorable John Dingell, Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
The Honorable Rick Boucher, Chairman,  
Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality